

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 438 222

SO 031 360

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 TITLE Teaching and Learning in Japan.
 ISBN ISBN-0-521-65115-8
 PUB DATE 1998-00-00
 NOTE 399p.
 AVAILABLE FROM Cambridge University Press, 40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011-4211 (clothbound: ISBN-0-521-49587-3, \$59.95; paperback: ISBN-0-521-65115-8, \$19.95). Tel: 800-872-7423 (Toll Free); Tel: 212-924-3900; Fax: 212-691-3239.
 PUB TYPE Books (010) -- Collected Works - General (020)
 EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
 DESCRIPTORS *Cognitive Style; *Cultural Context; Educational Objectives; *Educational Practices; Educational Research; Elementary Secondary Education; Foreign Countries; Japanese Culture; *Learning Processes; *Lifelong Learning; Non Western Civilization; *Teaching Methods
 IDENTIFIERS *Japan

ABSTRACT

The essays gathered in this volume are united by the common goal of understanding teaching and learning in Japan as it actually occurs. The essays seek to answer questions about the actual conduct of learning in different settings and at different points in the life cycle. This volume explores the expectations and associations found in specific Japanese situations. Although each chapter describes a specific context, the overall goal is to construct a whole picture embracing the diversity and underlying commonalities. The essays provide an inside view of Japanese teaching methods, where the emphasis is on the process of learning rather than the end product; applications across contexts, from religion to music to mathematics to guidance, are handled very differently than in the West. The titles and authors of the essays are as follows: (1) "Teaching and Learning in the Rinzai Zen Monastery" (G. Victor Sogen Hori); (2) "Building Character" (Thomas P. Rohlen); (3) "Fostering Social and Intellectual Development: The Roots of Japanese Educational Success" (Catherine C. Lewis); (4) "...And Tomoko Wrote This Song for Us" (Lauren J. Kotloff); (5) "Honoring the Individual" (Nancy Sato); (6) "Teachers and Teaching: Elementary Schools in Japan and the United States" (Shin-ying Lee; Theresa Graham; Harold W. Stevenson); (7) "Responsibility and Learning: Some Preliminary Hypotheses about Japanese Elementary Classrooms" (Ineko Tsuchida; Catherine C. Lewis); (8) "Cultures of Mathematics Instruction in Japanese and American Elementary Classrooms" (James W. Stigler; Clea Fernandez; Makoto Yoshida); (9) "The Kumon Approach to Teaching and Learning" (Nancy Ukai Russell); (10) "Shido: The Concept of Guidance" (Gerald K. LeTendre); (11) "The Path to Adulthood According to Japanese Middle Schools" (Rebecca Irwin Fukuzawa); (12) "Try, Try Again: Training in Noh Drama" (Tom Hare); (13) "The Suzuki Method of Music Instruction" (Lois Peak); and (14) "Conclusion: Themes in the Japanese Culture of Learning" (Thomas P. Rohlen; Gerald K. LeTendre). Contains an extensive reference list. (BT)

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